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Soak The Worker Tax Measure Goes to Congress

DiSalle Asks Labor Help Enforce Price Ceilings Locally

Washington.—Members of organized labor are being asked to serve on local volunteer price stabilization committees.

Price Stabilization Director Michael V. DiSalle telegraphed 1,253 mayors of cities over 10,000 population on Feb. 3, urging them to establish "immediately a volunteer emergency stabilization cooperation committee."

Mr. DiSalle "respectfully suggested" that the mayors include representatives of organized labor.

Central Labor Unions might be wise to call up their mayors and volunteer several names to serve on these committees.

The purpose of this committee," Mr. DiSalle said, "would be to provide means of assisting national and district office of price stabilization in encouraging general public knowledge and observance of regulations adopted in the interest of a sound national economy."

Each of the Volunteer Emergency Stabilization Cooperation Committees will have, at opportunity to work closely with district and regional offices of OPS, helping in every way they can to bring information about price control before their fellow citizens.

OPS officials said they would be provided with factual material, and they want to answer queries from the public and would be called on for advice and assistance in planning future programs of community education and co-operation.

The mayors were asked to notify their nearest district OPS office of their committee membership, so that an immediate working arrangement between the OPS officials and the volunteers could be established.

New Bill Would Jail Labor Spies

Washington.—Six senators introduced a bill to make labor espionage punishable by a \$5,000 fine, 2 years imprisonment, or both.

The measure grew out of an investigation by the Senate subcommittee on labor-management relations into the labor spy racket of the Civil Service Co., exposed by the AFL Seafarers International Union.

The bill is sponsored by Senators Murray, Neely, Humphrey, Douglas, Lehman and Morse. It would apply to those making espionage reports and receiving them.

Sen. Murray said the "labor spy" one who pretends to be in union but only to infiltrate worker ranks and betray those who really do believe in unionism, still use the title, furniture and other indoor items.

"The most shocking system" of labor espionage we discovered in the marine divisions of some of our great tank companies," Sen. Murray said.

Paul Hall, director of the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf Coast district, before the Senate committee hearings last September with 50 letters of testimony on Civil Service 4 years' spying, firing promotion and other employing labor spies and using, as Fortune Magazine reported, "every trick in the book but could not keep out the union."

SCHYEVELS CHOSE

Brussels, Belgium.—Walter Scheyvels, liaison officer for the GRETTAC and long a well-known figure in international labor circles, was elected secretary-general of the European Regional Organization of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

CALL CONVENTION

Chicago.—The AFL Railway Employees Department has called a convention beginning Monday, April 2, at the Morrison Hotel.

The department executive council set the date at a meeting here. The official call and credentials are to be sent as soon as printed.

Rolling in Profits, Packers Use Freeze To Block Pay Rise

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—The Big Swift and Armour packings are using the national wage freeze order as a substitute for refusing to negotiate. It was charged by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen, representing 60,000 packings, using the national wage freeze order as a substitute for refusing to negotiate. It was charged by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen, representing 60,000 packings, using the national wage freeze order as a substitute for refusing to negotiate.

Before the freeze, the union issued a statement predicting injustices to packers' workers if wages were frozen. Cyrus Ching, chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board, advised the union then to "wait for announcement of general policy."

The machinehouse union accepted a 2-year contract last year subject to the right to ask higher wages at 6-month intervals. Under this clause, the contract was renewed early in December, before the freeze.

The announcement of "general policy" by the Stabilization Board found the machinehouse workers with wages still at pre-freeze levels. But prices have continued to march upward, until the freeze on Jan. 25.

On Feb. 5, Earl W. Jimerson, president, and Patrick E. Gorman, secretary-treasurer, telegraphed Chairman Ching as follows:

"Swift and Armour companies still not willing to negotiate freely and in agreement, even though we offered to do so subject to approval of the board."

"We believe this is tantamount to a refusal to bargain, because they have used the wage and price order of Jan. 25 as a pretext for refusing to negotiate further."

"In view of the fact that the companies are enjoying high prices and good profits, their position is most provoking, causing unrest and work stoppage among our members."

"We hesitate to predict what attitude, if any, the companies' present attitude continues."

Proposed New Sales Taxes Will Hike Cost of Living

Washington.—Here are major excise (sales) tax increases recommended by President Truman.

Automobiles.—From 7 to 10 percent of the manufacturer's price.

Liquor.—From \$5 to \$12 per 100-proof gallon; equivalent to raising the tax on the standard bottle, which now costs \$1.50, to \$2.40, in the case of 100-proof whiskey.

Cigarettes.—From \$5.50 to \$5 per 1,000, which means boosting the tax from 7 to 10 cents a pack to a tax of 8 cents on each cigarette.

Radio.—From 11 to 13 cents a gallon.

Refrigerators, television sets, refrigerators and other electric, gas and oil appliances.—From 10 to 25 percent of the manufacturer's price.

Beer.—From \$8 to \$12 per barrel, equivalent to raising the tax on a 12-ounce bottle from about 2.5 to 3.8 cents.

LAY PROBLEMS BEFORE WILSON.—Washington.—Five-member United Labor Policy Committee told Defense Mobilization Chair Charles E. Wilson about some of the inequities of his program bearing hardest on the nation's working men and women. L. to T., AFL Vice President Dan W. Tracy, CIO Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey, United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis (not a member of the committee), Mr. Wilson, CIO President Philip Murray, Railway Labor Executives President George E. Ladd, and President A. J. Hayes of the International Association of Machinists.

Wage Freeze Order Thawed a Bit More To Permit Some Merit Pay Increases

Washington.—The Wage Stabilization Board thawed the unfair wage freeze a little bit more on Feb. 2 to permit merit rises and length-of-service pay increases.

The action was taken in response to thousands of telegrams and letters from employers who complained that the normal functioning of their personnel operations had been literally tied into knots by the "freeze" order.

The "freeze" edict made no allowance for the thousands of normal pay rises, which are made in the normal course of business, which ordinarily occur each week in industry.

The members of the 9-man wage board were in unanimous agreement that merit and length-of-service pay rises, but labor members dissented on one occasion because the board did not include representatives as persons privileged to inspect employees' records of wage or salary adjustments.

The public and government members insisted that the question of the rights of bargaining agents to inspect wage and salary records should be left open until a permanent policy is established by the board.

The National Labor Relations Board, upheld by federal courts, has already established as public policy that bargaining agents are entitled to such records.

Under the new wage order, merit and length-of-service wage increases are permitted along with transfers and promotions provided:

"That the changes are made in accordance with a formal agreement in effect prior to midday Jan. 25, 1951."

"That the changes are made in accordance with a formal agreement made in salary and wage levels follow the pattern of a company's 1950 records and that the over-all increase or other changes do not exceed the proposals of those made last year."

The act also permits men to be shifted from one job to another which pays better. It allows, too, the creation of new jobs at higher wages provided the changes are in line with the existing practice of the company.

The normal operation of incentive

plans is also permitted. In companies where premiums are paid for those on the night shift, transfers of workers from day to night work are allowed and the premium rate is permitted provided it is similar to that of before the price freeze.

In hiring new employees, for jobs in which the pay scale is varied, the new worker must be taken on at the minimum scale. Where a single rate governs, the new employee is entitled to that rate, it was added.

The board also preserved the general price and wage structure the WSB inclusion. A special section provided:

"Increases in the wage rates of employees granted under the terms of a general government regulation shall not furnish a basis either to increase prices or to require otherwise justifiable reductions in price ceilings."

Labor Sees Truman On Manpower Deal

Washington.—AFL President William Green and CIO President Philip Murray called on President Truman Feb. 3 to urge that he keep the Office of Defense Manpower under the direction of Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin.

The White House visit concluded 3 days of intensive work by the United Labor Policy Committee among top chiefs of the nation's civilian and defense mobilization agencies.

The committee, which is composed of AFL, CIO and Railway Labor Executives' Committee members, met with Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson and Economic Action prior to the visit with Mr. Truman.

Mr. Wilson had announced he planned to take over administration of the manpower program from Mr. Tobin.

P. R. OFFICE

San Juan, Puerto Rico.—An insular public employment service is now operating in Puerto Rico in accordance with legislation approved by the 81st Congress. Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin announced that the new service, which began Feb. 1, is affiliated with the United States Employment Service and supercedes and consolidates into one organization the former employment offices financed by the insular government and the former veterans employment service on the island. It operates as a part of the Puerto Rico Department of Labor, headed by Commissioner Fernando Sierra Berdecia.

The best news of the new agency is at San Juan, but workers and employers will also be served by several full-time local offices and a number of itinerant service points located at strategic centers.

Buy Independence Bonds.

Hits Hard Low-Income Groups and Raises Excise Rates

Washington.—Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder asked Congress for taxes which hit hardest the lowest-income groups in the nation.

The program would:

1. Raise individual income tax rates on incomes less than \$2,000 a year \$4 on each \$100 of income after deductions and personal exemptions.

2. Increase excise taxes on autos, television and radio, cigarettes, beer, gasoline and a host of other items.

3. Boost corporation income taxes \$3 billion a year.

4. Leave it to Congress to close loopholes on incomes less than the 274 percent depletion allowance enjoyed by oil and mining companies, and those in the gift and estate tax laws.

On the credit side, the administration will would retain the \$500 personal exemption now in effect and it does not ask for an overall federal sales tax.

Generally, the measure ignores the proposals of the American Federation of Labor for easing the tax burden on the low-income groups.

AFL spokesmen will testify before the appropriate Senate and House committees when hearings on the bill begin in an effort to get AFL views across.

The AFL favors a pay-as-you-go policy for the defense mobilization plan and the 274 percent depletion allowance enjoyed by oil and mining companies, and those in the gift and estate tax laws.

In his message, President Truman asked that taxes be increased in 1951 to help pay for the war. He later raised the \$16 billion needed to pay for the war.

He also asked that the \$4 billion be raised in personal income taxes, \$3 billion in corporation taxes and \$3 billion in excise taxes.

Congressional tax leaders have indicated it will take at least until June for Congress to complete action on the new tax proposals.

Of course, cannot take effect until Congress has voted upon them and the President has signed them into law.

Secretary Snyder said nothing in his prepared statement for the committee about making the increase in income taxes retroactive to Jan. 1, or any date earlier than the Congress finishes action.

The Treasury chief declared the \$71.6 billion budget proposed by the President for the fiscal year starting next July 1 must be balanced. It will take \$16 billion to pay for the war.

He expected \$56.1 billion record flow of tax funds to balance it.

Mr. Snyder said the new tax-exempt proposal to follow the requested \$16 billion in tax cuts, but he indicated that nothing will be ruled out of consideration—not even a further increase in the war effort.

He insisted that "a balanced budget is essential to our strength and will contribute to our strength in the future."

Cutbacks to Throw More Out of Work

Washington.—Unemployment caused by cutbacks in civilian production is expected to add a serious problem in connection with the nation's defense effort.

Unemployment may increase in March when many reductions in civilian production take effect unless more defense work gets underway.

It was estimated that the substantial amount, the U. S. Labor Department said.

The department said that industrial lay-offs because of materials and parts shortages will be about 100,000 in the week ended Jan. 6 but declined rapidly since that date.

It was indicated that directing defense contracts to loose labor markets would be a serious problem. There were less than in World War II in an effort to use all manpower most efficiently.

Labor 'Gravely Concerned' Over Defense Mobilization

Washington—The United Labor Policy Committee is gravely concerned about the way the mobilization program is developing under Defense Mobilization Chief Charles E. Wilson. The committee reviewed recent meetings under the government's defense mobilization program at a meeting Feb. 1.

Members conferred with Mr. Wilson, Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston and labor members of the Wage Stabilization Board.

All phases of the program were discussed.

As the committee met, the Wage Stabilization Board acted to thaw slightly the tight freeze on wages imposed Jan. 26 and the freeze reports that Mr. Wilson wanted to take over manpower authority from Secretary of Labor Maurice F. Tobin.

The AFL Executive Council at its Miami meeting has called on both Mr. Wilson and Mr. Johnston to give labor, the representatives of working people, adequate representation in their organizational set-up at policy-making and operating levels.

In another development on the economic front, President Truman sent a message to Congress asking more than \$16 billion in new taxes, much of it to come from the low-income wage earners groups.

The slight thaw in the wage freeze provided:

1. All contracts negotiated prior to Jan. 25—date of the freeze—contracts which take effect no later than Feb. 9 approved.
2. All raises up to 75 cents an hour minimum under the Fair Labor Standards Act or increases granted under state minimum wage laws are automatically approved.
3. Wages put into effect by state, county or municipal governments are approved but these governmental subdivisions are "expected to conform to national wage policy."
4. Wage stabilization includes so-called fringe adjustments, such as vacations and holidays, and premium overtime.

RENT PICTURE

Washington—Workers in 63 of the nation's cities over 100,000 population have no rent controls or soon will be controlled, the government reports.

Thirty-five of these cities have no rent control now and 28 more will be automatically decontrolled on March 31 unless they take affirmative action to extend curbs until next June 30 under the present law.

There are no rent controls in the states of Alabama, Arizona, Nebraska, Nevada, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin and Utah. These states include 16 cities over 100,000.

Other large cities without rent controls are Portland, Ore.; Pasadena, Long Beach, San Diego, Los Angeles, Little Rock, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Jacksonville, Tampa, Miami, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Wichita, Spokane, Charlotte, N. C.; Fort Wayne, Indianapolis and Sacramento.

The 28 cities that have not taken affirmative action needed to continue controls beyond March 31 are: Detroit, New Orleans, Atlanta, Kansas City, Denver, Seattle, Oakland, Akron, Toledo, Louisville and Des Moines.

WANT EQUAL PAY

Glasgow, Scotland—The 29th annual conference of union payroll women demanded that the labor government implement "at the earliest possible moment" the principle of equal pay for equal work. The equal work principle is "greatly perturbed" by the government's continuing failure to give effect to the principle.

Iceland Unions World's Strongest

Washington—Iceland has the strongest labor movement in the world in terms of organizations and strength.

That's the opinion of J. H. Oldenbrook, general secretary International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

"Icelandians have organized 96 percent of their eligible members," he told reporters here.

Out of a population of 200,000 there are 24,000 in the unions. In the United States there would have to be 45,000 union members to be comparable to Iceland.



HAYES TAKES DEFENSE POST—Washington, President Al J. Hayes of the AFL International Association of Machinists (right) confers with Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, assistant secretary of defense manpower and personnel, on his duties as special assistant on manpower problems—the first special assistant in the history of the national military establishment to come from the ranks of organized labor.

Hayes Appointed To Defense Post

Washington—The appointment of Albert J. Hayes, president AFL International Association of Machinists, as special assistant on manpower problems was announced by Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Personnel.

Mr. Hayes, who will continue to serve as president of the Machinists Union, will perform his duties at the Department of Defense on a regular basis and will be available for consultation on other occasions as well. He is the first special assistant in the history of the national military establishment to come from the ranks of organized labor.

Born in Milwaukee, Wis. Feb. 14, 1900, Mr. Hayes became an apprentice in the shipyards of the Milwaukee Railroad at the age of 17. In the year he joined Milwaukee Lodge 1082, I.A.M.

He held local and district offices in the union before becoming general officer president of the Machinists in 1944. He came to Washington in 1945 to be in charge of the union's grand lodge headquarters. In 1949 he was elected president.

During World War II, Mr. Hayes was a labor member of the War Labor Board. He now is co-chairman of the United Labor Policy Committee, representing the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Railroad Brotherhoods and major independent unions.

He is a member of the Management-Labor Advisory Committee on Defense Manpower of the Department of Labor and the advisory committee to the director of the Defense Mobilization Board.

700,000 ADDED

Washington—Since the outbreak of Korean hostilities, durable goods industries have added 700,000 workers to their payrolls.

'UNION MAID'



"I'll be glad to join your union, but why would I if it can't even good cooks' dough?"

Washington—One of new series of Union Maid cartoons distributed Feb. 1 by AFL News Service editors.

JOBLESS DROPS

Geneva, Switzerland—Unemployment was lower at the end of 1950 than at the close of 1949 in 9 of 14 countries for which the International Labor Office received recent statistics.

Countries showing a decrease in unemployment as compared to the corresponding date 12 months earlier were: Canada, United States, Hawaii, United Kingdom, Ireland, Finland, Switzerland, Israel, and South America.

Countries showing an increase were: Austria, Denmark, France, the German Federal Republic, and India.

Tobin Establishes Defense Industry Safety Program

Washington—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin set up an industrial safety program to cut down on job accidents in defense industry.

The U. S. Department of Labor will cooperate with state labor agencies which have legal authority for industrial safety and health in assigning safety technicians and developing training programs.

Secretary Tobin said: "Because of our low labor reserve in a period of expanded production every effort must be made to reduce accidents in industry and to improve age safe work practices and a more widespread knowledge of the importance of safety in order to conserve manpower at this critical time."

The new system of cooperation with the states will avoid much of the duplication which existed in the inspection services during World War II and will result in a more efficient method of coping with industrial accidents at the present time."

SOME IDEAS ON WHAT TO COOK

New York—There's no pat answer to the puzzle of what to serve during February, a month that includes the start of Lent, Valentine's Day, and the birthdays of 2 Presidents.

Besides special menus for these events, the homemaker must plan for the customary 3 meals a day. The U. S. Department of Agriculture on its February list of possibilities has varied enough to meet these needs.

Such items as fish, cottage cheese and peanut butter will have special interest during Lent. Poultry and poultry will offer further variety, as will eggs and honey.

Two extra-starchy vegetables—onions and sauerkraut—will also be in excellent supply next month.

For meatless dishes, homemakers can draw on current large stocks of frozen fish fillets. Shrimp, both fresh and frozen, suggests another treat for lunch or routine menus. Canned fish likely to be in ample supply next month will include tuna, sardines and mackerel.

Wage Board Thaws Pay Freeze Little In First Orders

Washington—The government eased the wage freeze slightly to permit all wage raises granted Jan. 26 or before to apply to a period starting Feb. 9 or before.

The action was taken by the Wage Stabilization Board by a vote of 6 to 3, with the 3 industry members dissenting.

The new order permits a wage increase of \$1.00 a day for about 490,000 soft and hard coal miners.

The regulation does not specifically mention coal, and board officials said at least 60 other contracts, and maybe 10 times that many, are affected by the easing of the wage freeze.

The announcement of the regulation and three other wage orders clarifying the wage freeze was made by Mr. CHIE.

One of the new orders exempts state, county, and municipal employees—but not federal—from the wage and price regulations. The regulations and other governments which fix the wages of these employees are "excluded" from the regulations.

One of the regulations announced by the board makes it so that payments into a pension fund, overtime rates, vacation and holiday pay, and higher rates for night shifts, are covered under the freeze.

Board members explained that overtime may be legally paid under the freeze but will be increased without the prior approval of the board.

The freeze order, signed by Economic Stabilizer Eric Johnston, was announced Jan. 26. It says that wages, salaries, and other compensation may be raised but not above the level of the first setting permission of the board.

The fourth regulation authorizes wage increases—without board approval—only for necessary increases with the wage-hour law and other federal wage laws.

One effect of this is to give blanket approval to raises up to 75 cents an hour for necessary increases under the federal wage-hour law.

Under the new regulations, except the one on new contracts, such as in the coal industry, were approved unanimously by the board. It has three members each from industry, labor and the public.

REMOVES RELOCATED Toronto, Canada—President William Jenovics was relocated for his 11th term as head of the Toronto District Trades and Labor Council, oldest in Canada. He is business agent of the AFL Bricklayers Union and vice president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

RECORD EMPLOYMENT Washington—Non-farm employment reached an all-time high of 46.4 million in mid-December.

U. S. Doesn't Need Imported Labor, But Government Dickers For Them

Washington—The AFL CIO and Railway Labor Executives Association protested to Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin the United States Government's negotiations to bring up wages of 500,000 Mexican nationals to this country as farm workers.

The protest was presented even before the negotiations were being carried on by representatives of the State and War Departments, Gen. Alfred M. Sweeney, U. S. Ambassador to Mexico, and Rep. W. R. Pogue of Texas in Mexico City for the importation.

Lewis G. Hines, special representative of the AFL President William Z. Foster, protested to Secretary Tobin a memorandum which said in part:

"We are most opposed to the importation of foreign nationals for employment in agriculture if there is a proven need for such importation of labor. We believe that sufficient labor can be mobilized in the U. S. and its possessions to meet any present need for manpower on the nation's farms."

labor representatives listed 4,766,000 persons available in this country for farm work.

They also pointed out that the

Mr. Tobin were Mr. Hines, President H. L. Hunt of the AFL National Farm Labor Union, Ernest Benson of the Railway Labor Executives Association, Paul Sifton of the CIO, and Mr. Venetie Well, secretary National Council on Agricultural Life and Labor.

Learning that Fidel Velazquez, chief of the Mexican Federation of Labor (CFM), had formally requested the State Department for equal status for representatives of American workers in the current negotiations.

The AFL designated Ernesto Garza, vice president National Farm Labor Union, to lead a delegation of workers to meet in the formal negotiations.

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California Fights Reactionary Attack In Legislature

By JOHN F. HENNING
San Francisco Correspondent AFL
News Service

San Francisco.—The California State Federation of Labor marked its 50th anniversary Jan. 28 by mapping strategy for the vital 1951 session of the state legislature.

As of the federation's 50th birthday, the powerful forces of California reaction had already introduced legislation intended to emasculate the organized worker movement of the state. In the January period of the state general session, strongly sponsored measures were introduced to deny California workers the legally won rights to peaceful picketing, contract rights and unfair listings. Other anti-labor blows sought to weaken or destroy the union shop, the women's 8-hour law and the organizing rights of professional workers.

As relative political quiet prevailed during the February recess, the state AFL prepared to push its own legislation program upon re-opening of the general session March 12.

Federation proposals are featured by bills to obtain a \$40 maximum weekly benefit for unemployment and disability insurance; workers' compensation; extension of present state social security legislation to agricultural workers; creation of a Fair Employment Practices Commission, a \$1.25 minimum wage, and a rent control law.

On the controversial California farm front, a hospital chapter in the long tragic story of the state's agricultural workers' struggle was opened Jan. 1 with publishing of the recommendations and preliminary report of Governor Warren's Agricultural Survey the Agricultural Resources of the San Joaquin Valley. Other members of the 15-man committee were C. J. Haggerty, secretary State Federation of Labor, and H. Cary, secretary AFL Fresno Federation of Labor and Labor Council.

The committee was appointed by Governor Warren on March 3, 1950, following the numerous deaths of children of farm workers.

Committee recommendations urged legislative action to effect the following reforms:

(1) Control of the notorious labor contractor system; (2) increased support of labor camps; (3) encouragement of public health care; (4) private loans to farm workers; (5) a special state education program for migrant children; (6) child care centers; (7) adult education; (8) extension of child welfare services; (9) requests for federal unemployment insurance, and state insurance; (10) "if feasible," (10) creation of a California agricultural labor resource board; (11) enforcement of child labor laws; (12) coverage of farm workers under old Age and Survivors Insurance; (13) expansion of the school lunch program; (14) a planned and organized system of medical care on a statewide basis.

Revel of the Pacific Coast's vast, productive shipbuilding program of World War II became a No. 1 issue in the West during the early days of the nation's drive for total military and civilian defense.

Thomas A. Rostell, executive secretary AFL Pacific Coast Maritime Trades Council, has requested that a proper allocation of ships to the West be made in the building of 10 to care ships for which the federal government approved funds in the closing days of the 81st Congress. Western labor has been consistent in asking for a fair share of such allocations which are distributed between shipyards on the East Coast, Gulf and West Coast.

The State Federation of Labor introduced a new educational series with the publishing of the first in a series of articles entitled "Your Economics and Mine." The series is designed with vital economic questions of the day and will be distributed regularly to the AFL press of California. The first article provided an explanation of the Consumer's Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its relationship to the American wage earner.

URGES FILING

Washington.—W. A. Calvin, acting director AFL Social Insurance Activities and member advisory committee of the War Claims Commission, urges civil claims for the deaths of prisoners in World War II be filed before the deadline March 1. He said some 30,000 eligible claimants have so far failed to file.



AUSTRIAN EDITORS GUESTS OF AFL.—Milwaukee, Wis.—Some members of a team of Austrian trade union journalists, are shown producing the world's largest motorcycle factory, Harley-Davidson Co. Members of the AFL United Auto Workers, which has organized the plant 100 percent, are taken to the Austrian visitors during their stay here. In USA under the Economic Cooperation Administration, the Austrian editors wind up their tour in New York and Washington in February.

BACK AUSTRIA

Brussels, Belgium.—A report disseminating the role of the Soviet Union and the Communist exploitation of that nation was approved by the European Regional Organization of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

The approval was announced by J. H. Oldenbrook, secretary-general of the ICFU.

"If economic condition of workers in Austria is worse than that in other countries, it is attributable to Soviet Russia," Mr. Oldenbrook said. "Thanks to the United States and to the other

free countries, Austria has been able to survive."

The report was submitted by a delegation representing the ICFU which recently visited Austria. It will be referred to the Emergency Committee of the ICFU, which will meet in Brussels February 20.

HOURS INCREASED

Washington.—The workweek of the nation's 18 million factory production workers rose to an average of 41.6 hours in mid-December, up by almost 2 hours over the year.

AFL Convention Calendar

(Following is a list of conventions scheduled for this year by National and International Unions and State Federations of Labor under the banner of the AFL. Dates are approximate.)

| Date, 1951 | Organization | Place |
|------------|--|----------------------|
| Mar. 26 | Seafarers International Union of North Am. | San Francisco, Cal. |
| Mar. 26 | American Flint Glass Federation of Labor | Newport, R. I. |
| Apr. 9 | Coopers Int. Union of North America | Philadelphia, Pa. |
| Apr. 10 | Int. Bro. Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers, etc. | Chicago, Ill. |
| May 4 | Kansas State Federation of Labor | Hutchinson, Kan. |
| May 4 | Int. Plate Printers, Die Stampers, etc. | Washington, D. C. |
| May 14 | Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of Am. | San Francisco, Cal. |
| May 16 | Georgia State Federation of Labor | Atlanta, Ga. |
| May 16 | Arkansas State Federation of Labor | Tarkenton, Ark. |
| May 21 | Virginia State Federation of Labor | Richmond, Va. |
| May 21 | Int. Union of Elevator Constructors | San Francisco, Cal. |
| May 21 | United Wall Paper Craftsmen, etc. | Chicago, Ill. |
| May 24 | Missouri State Federation of Labor | St. Louis, Mo. |
| May 24 | Int. Brotherhood of Teamsters and Labor | Nashville, Tenn. |
| June 4 | Tennessee State Federation of Labor | Nashville, Tenn. |
| June 4 | South Dakota State Federation of Labor | Watertown, S. D. |
| June 4 | Idaho State Federation of Labor | Atlantic City, N. J. |
| June 4 | New Jersey State Federation of Labor | Atlantic City, N. J. |
| June 4 | American Flint Glass Federation of Labor | Undecided |
| June 11 | American Federation of Musicians | New York City |
| June 11 | Switchmen's Union of North America | Buffalo, N. Y. |
| June 11 | Int. Union of Shipyard Workers | Buffalo, N. Y. |
| June 11 | Colorado State Federation of Labor | Pueblo, Colo. |
| June 18 | Michigan State Federation of Labor | Detroit, Mich. |
| June 18 | Oregon State Federation of Labor | Klamath Falls, Ore. |
| June 18 | Boat and Ship Workers Union | Galveston, Texas |
| June 25 | Texas State Federation of Labor | San Antonio, Tex. |
| June 25 | Int'l Bro. Operative Pottery | Atlantic City, N. J. |
| July 9 | Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters and Labor | Spokane, Wash. |
| July 17 | Int'l Longshoremen's Association | Undecided |
| Aug. 6 | Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters and Labor | Undecided |
| Aug. 6 | Massachusetts State Federation of Labor | Ottawa, Can. |
| Aug. 6 | Int'l Asn. Siderographers, etc. | Ashville, N. C. |
| Aug. 20 | North Carolina State Federation of Labor | San Diego, Cal. |
| Aug. 20 | California State Federation of Labor | San Diego, Cal. |
| Aug. 20 | Ohio State Federation of Labor | Columbus, Ohio |
| Aug. 20 | East Carolina State Federation of Labor | Youngstown, Ohio |
| Aug. 23 | Wisconsin State Federation of Labor | Superior, Wis. |
| Aug. 23 | Int'l Photo Engraving Union of Am. | New York City |
| Aug. 23 | West Virginia State Federation of Labor | Huntington, W. Va. |
| Sept. 2 | Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters and Labor | Undecided |
| Sept. 2 | North Dakota State Federation of Labor | Bismarck, N. D. |
| Sept. 2 | Railway Patrolmen's Int. Union | Boston, Mass. |
| Sept. 2 | Int. Union of Marine Engineers, etc. | New York City |
| Sept. 9 | Int. Stereotypers & Electrotypers, etc. | Chicago, Ill. |
| Sept. 9 | Kentucky State Federation of Labor | Lexington, Ky. |
| Sept. 10 | Amalgamated Ass'n of Street & Electric, etc. | San Antonio, Tex. |
| Sept. 10 | Trades & Labor Congress of Canada | Halifax, N. S. |
| Sept. 10 | Connecticut State Federation of Labor | Undecided |
| Sept. 11 | Nevada State Federation of Labor | Nevada, Nev. |
| Sept. 12 | Vermont State Federation of Labor | Wilmington, Vt. |
| Sept. 12 | Nat'l Ass'n Post Office & Railway, etc. | Denver, Colo. |
| Sept. 12 | Int. Union of Painters and Decorators | Cincinnati, Ohio |
| Sept. 12 | Building & Construction Trades Dept. | San Francisco, Cal. |
| Sept. 12 | Nat'l Ass'n of Shipyard Workers, etc. | Baltimore, Md. |
| Sept. 12 | American Wire Weavers' Pro. | New York City |
| Oct. 15 | New Mexico State Federation of Labor | Clovis, N. M. |
| Oct. 15 | Int'l H. C. Federation | Chicago, Ill. |
| Oct. 15 | Railway Mail Association | Boston, Mass. |
| Oct. 15 | Commercial Telegraphers Union of N. A. | Miami Beach, Fla. |
| Oct. 15 | Oklahoma Labor Federation | Edin, Okla. |
| Nov. 8 | Nat'l Ass'n Metal Mechanics, etc. | Washington, D. C. |
| Dec. 6 | Int'l Union of Horse Shoers, etc. | New Orleans, La. |

* Date not definitely set.

Taxpayers and Workers Require Protection of Walsh-Healey Act

Washington.—The opportunity to do business with the government is not in itself a basis for lifting the blacklisting penalty imposed on firms under provisions of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin said.

He affirmed his previous decision in the *Westchester Hotel* case, in which he ruled that New York's Rockefeller Hotel, N. Y., from government contracts for 3 years.

The N. Y. firm, which had manufactured military caps for the government, had been held ineligible because of minimum wage and overtime pay violations and inadequate and falsified records. Under the Public Contracts Act, which applies to government manufacture and supply contracts in excess of \$10,000, any employer found to violate any provision is automatically ineligible for further government contracts during a 3-year period, unless the Secretary of Labor rules to the contrary.

The Victor K. Browning Company

of Willoughby, Ohio, has also been barred for 3 years from government contracts under the Public Contracts Act, Tobin announced.

The secretary said this action was taken because the company, which had been in government employment for the manufacture of industrial equipment, had employed workers in work under conditions which were unsanitary and dangerous to health and safety, and to provisions of the act. The company had also violated record-keeping requirements on injury-frequency rates.

Repeal or suspension of the Walsh-Healey law, Bacon-Davis Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act is being advocated by Big Business and their representatives in the government's defense and mobilization setup. Yet, all these laws are exempt to establish minimum standards of decency under which employers perform work for the government and under which free Americans must work.

Green Supports IBEW Local 3 Signs Scholarship Plan Against Killer

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent AFL
News Service

Washington.—AFL President William Green called on IBEW members to support the 1951 Heart Fund Campaign against heart disease.

"The number one killer on our home front that strikes down more than 630,000 Americans annually,"

the campaign opened Feb. 1 to raise \$8 million for research and aid to heart disease victims. Chief of most of the unions are participating in the drive.

Mr. Green addressed his appeal in a letter to officers of national and international unions, state federations and city central bodies.

"We cannot permit heart disease to continue to reap its dreadful toll of death and disability," Mr. Green said.

"The only way it grows more important is if it gives me immediate satisfaction to serve again as a sponsor of the 1951 Heart Fund Campaign. I am confident that the millions of Americans who are afflicted with this terrible scourge."

"The association's nation-wide campaign during February seeks to raise \$8,000,000, which is the minimum required for an effective program of heart research, rehabilitation, public education and other community services."

"Therefore, I call upon all officers and members of the American Federation of Labor to exert every effort to help in this successful campaign for the 1951 Heart Fund. I am certain that you will rise to the occasion."

New York.—What is undoubtedly the largest labor-management scholarship program in the United States, designed to make possible for sons of union members a free college and engineering education, has been announced by Business Manager Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., of Local 3, AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The unprecedented program grows out of an agreement between Local 3 and N.Y.U. which provides that any firm realizing more than \$1 million in sales in any given year will sponsor a 6-year undergraduate and graduate school scholarship at N.Y.U. for the son of a Local 3 member.

The scholarship agreement, 13 scholarships, each one worth \$4,250, have been set up. Two scholarships were up in 1950 as a result of last year's annual practice, regardless of business income.

That makes a total of 15 scholarships for sons of Local 3 members and means that by the end of 6 years 90 boys will be getting a free college and graduate school education.

The scholarship program was conceived by Business Manager Van Arsdale as a means of making it possible for sons of Local 3 electricians to get an advanced education in electrical engineering. The scholarship provides a boy to spend 2 years at the undergraduate Columbia College and another 3 years at the university's School of Engineering studying electricity. The \$4,250 stipend provides for full tuition, fees and books.

The program has established 2 scholarships for children of Local 3 members at Cornell University.



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